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HOUSE TURNS BACK EFFORTS TO ADOPT WAR FUNDS CURB

Rejects Immediate Vote on Cooper-Church Bar to New U.S. Action in Cambodia

By JOHN W. FINNEY
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, July 9—With the Nixon Administration's support, the House leadership thwarted an attempt by anti-war Representatives today to force an immediate vote on the Senate's Cooper-Church amendment restricting future military operations in Cambodia.

Through a series of parliamentary maneuvers, the House leadership brought about a cut-off in debate on the Cambodia issue.

The cutoff vote—247 to 153—did not represent a direct rejection of the amendment. But it increased the prospect of a deadlock between Senate and House delegations in the conference committee that will be assigned to reconcile the two versions of the foreign military sales bill, to which the Senate added the amendment on June 30.

Acceptance Voted Down

The House's decision today was to lay aside a motion that would have instructed the House delegation to accept the amendment.

Senate conferees have made clear they are prepared to let the bill, which authorizes sale of arms on credit, die if the house is unwilling to accept some version of the amendment.

House conferees, in turn, are certain to point to today's vote as an indication that the House is unwilling to accept the amendment and that therefore it must be deleted.

That was the interpretation placed upon the vote by the White House, which has fought the amendment as an infringement upon the President's Constitutional powers as Commander in Chief.

Curbs Military Activities

The amendment, co-sponsored by Senators John Sherman Cooper, Republican of Kentucky, and Frank Church, Democrat of Idaho, bars the use of any funds for United States forces or advisers in Cambodia, for air combat support for Cambodian forces or for assistance of other countries that may go to Cambodia's aid.

The White House press secretary, Ronald L. Ziegler, told reporters today that President Nixon was "very pleased" and that he "does commend the House on the responsible

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action" taken by the House. Robert H. Finch, counselor to the President, who was with Mr. Nixon when word was received on the House vote, said: "Very pleased is an understatement. He was elated."

It took the Senate seven weeks to debate and adopt the Cooper-Church amendment. But in the House there was not a minute of debate on the amendment as the doves of both parties found themselves outmaneuvered by the House leadership and the Administration.

The objective of the doves had been to force a test vote on the Cambodian issue by moving to instruct the House conferees to accept the Cooper-Church amendment. Behind the scenes some pro-Administration representatives were putting pressure on individual members to vote against such a motion.

Tells of Woman Caller

Representatives Jerome R. Waldie, Democrat of California, and Donald M. Fraser, Democrat of Minnesota, complained to the House that "thinly veiled threats" were being made by officials of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, linking domestic projects in home districts with the vote on the amendment.

Mr. Waldie said a woman official in the housing agency telephoned him this morning to remind him that a grant was pending in his district and to urge him to vote with the President against the amendment. Mr. Waldie said he knew of two other House members who had received similar calls.

"So what's new now?" replied Representative Leslie C. Arends of Illinois, the Repub-

lican whip. "We've been through the same experience before, whichever party is in power."

At the White House, Mr. Ziegler denied that there had been any attempt by the white House to apply pressure on individual members and suggested that no directions had been given to the housing agency to call individual members.

Speaking by telephone with Frederick Merrill, a staff member of the House Democratic Study Group, Nancy Kasbeck, an assistant in the Office of Congressional Relations of the housing agency, reported that she had made 48 calls to individual House members on the amendment.

Two Were Waiting to Speak

The bipartisan leadership moved smoothly when the matter came to the floor. Representative Thomas P. Morgan of Pennsylvania, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, moved to send the bill to a Senate-House conference. Such a motion can normally be debated for an hour, but Mr. Morgan moved for an immediate vote, saying that no one had asked for time to speak.

Standing within three feet of him ready to speak were two Democrats, Allard K. Lowenstein of Nassau County and Abner J. Mikva of Illinois. Mr. Morgan was upheld in his motion by a vote of 247 to 143.

The Speaker, John W. McCormack of Massachusetts, refused to recognize Mr. Mikva to offer a motion that the House concurred in the amendment. Despite Mr. Mikva's contention that his motion was valid under the House rules, the Speaker ruled that it would be out of order.

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